

LESSON

8

PRACTICE WORKSHEET A

COPYMASTER

Foreshadowing and Suspense

Directions: Read each passage. Then answer the questions that follow.

When Mrs. Judd offered us the ponies, I couldn't believe my ears. Even more unbelievable, my parents agreed to take them.

Venus is roan-colored with white slashes on her back. Mercury is dun with a jet-black mane. They nibble grain from my hand. Mercury rests his brown head on Venus's red back. Sometimes they press their heads together.

Mom warned me that ponies were work. There was hay to carry and manure to shovel. We had a small barn, but Dad and I built stalls. Looking back, we should also have strengthened the fences in the field.

1. Which sentence *most likely* foreshadows a main conflict?
 - a. Even more unbelievable, my parents agreed to take them.
 - b. Mom warned me that ponies were work.
 - c. We should also have strengthened the fences in the field.
2. The writer uses foreshadowing to
 - a. create tension
 - b. compare the two ponies
 - c. describe the setting

On Halloween night, I was frightened to death. It had nothing to do with ghosts or witches either. What sent a shiver down my spine was the whinnying I heard when I got home. Venus was pacing and snorting furiously in the field, and Mercury was gone!

Mom and I drove up and down the roads for hours. Bed-sheet ghosts cast shadows, and paper witches grinned. But there was no sign of my lost pony. Venus kept up her frightened whinnying all night, and I didn't sleep.

The next day was Saturday. It was pouring rain. We searched till we were drenched to the skin, but no one had seen Mercury.

PRACTICE WORKSHEET A, CONTINUED

3. Which sentence from the story adds *most* to the suspense?
- a. The next day was Saturday.
 - b. Venus kept up her frightened whinnying all night.
 - c. Bed-sheet ghosts cast shadows, and paper witches grinned.
4. What is the main question you have about the outcome of this story?
